

NC Department of Commerce
Workforce Monthly Activity
October 2012

Released: Friday
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| | | Current Month OCT 12 | LABOR MARKET INFORMATION | Prior Month ¹ SEP 12 |
|---|--|---------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Dempsey Benton <i>Assistant Secretary</i> | | 7.9% | U. S. Unemployment Rate | 7.8% |
| Stephanie McGarrah <i>Assistant Secretary</i> | | 9.3% | North Carolina Unemployment Rate | 9.6% |
| | | 4,708,952 | Size of North Carolina Civilian Labor Force | 4,674,274 |
| | | 4,269,351 | Number of workers employed in North Carolina | 4,225,652 |
| Roger J. Shackleford <i>Assistant Secretary</i> | | 439,601 | Number of workers unemployed in North Carolina | 448,622 |
| | | 3,964,800 | Estimated Nonfarm Employment in North Carolina | 3,956,800 |
| | | OCT 12 | UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) ACTIVITY ² | SEP 12 |
| | | 594,199 | Individuals receiving one or more UI payments – 2011 (All programs) | 594,199 |
| | | 99,984 | Individuals receiving UI benefits – Oct. 2012 | 95,998 |
| | | 353,928 | Weeks of UI paid in Oct. 2012 | 343,805 |
| | | \$1.4 Billion | Amount paid in UI – 2011 | \$1.4 Billion |
| | | \$102.6 Million | Amount paid in UI – Oct. 2012 ³ | \$100.4 Million |
| | | \$51.8 Million | Amount paid in Federal Benefits – EUC Tier I – Oct. 2012 ⁴ | \$54.7 Million |
| | | \$27.1 Million | Amount paid in Federal Benefits – EUC Tier II – Oct. 2012 ⁴ | \$28.0 Million |
| | | \$19.7 Million | Amount paid in Federal Benefits – EUC Tier III – Oct. 2012 ⁴ | \$20.5 Million |
| | | \$10.2 Million | Amount paid in Federal Benefits – EUC Tier IV – Oct. 2012 ⁴ | \$10.1 Million |
| | | \$15,709 | Amount paid in Federal Benefits – EB – Oct. 2012 ⁵ | \$6,370 |
| | | \$0 | Amount NC paid in Extended Benefits – EB – Oct. 2012 ⁵ | \$0 |
| | | \$280.19 | Average Weekly UI Benefit Amount – 2011 | \$280.19 |
| | | \$289.93 | Average Weekly UI Benefit Amount – Oct. 2012 | \$292.05 |
| | | \$46 / \$535 | Minimum/Maximum amount of UI benefits (per week) – Oct. 2012 | \$46 / \$535 |
| | | 16.3 Weeks | Average Duration (Jul. 2011 – Jun. 2012) | 16.3 Weeks |
| | | 25 th (Lowest) | Duration Ranking (Jul. 2011 – Jun. 2012) | 25 th (Lowest) |
| | | \$1.5 Billion | Total collected in UI Taxes in 12-month period ending Oct. 2012 | \$1.5 Billion |
| | | \$1.3 Billion | Total paid in UI Benefits in 12-month period ending Oct. 2012 | \$1.3 Billion |
| | | -\$2.5 Billion | Trust Fund Balance – Oct. 31, 2012 | -\$2.5 Billion |
| | | \$2.5 Billion | Federal Loan Balance – Oct. 31, 2012 | \$2.5 Billion |
| | | \$46.7 Million | State Reserve Balance – Oct. 31, 2012 | \$33.0 Million |
| | | OCT 12 | EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ACTIVITY | SEP 12 |
| | | 32,370 | New & Renewed Jobseekers – Oct. 2012 | 31,369 |
| | | 363,259 | New & Renewed Jobseekers for PY (Jul. 2011 – Jun. 2012) | 363,259 |
| | | 137,027 | New & Renewed Jobseekers - Y-T-D (Jul. 2012 - Oct. 2012) | 105,933 |
| | | 59,906 | Jobseekers provided service – Oct. 2012 ⁶ | 55,266 |
| | | 41,317 | Jobseekers referred to jobs – Oct. 2012 ⁶ | 38,336 |
| | | 171,603 | Total Services provided – Oct. 2012 | 147,549 |
| | | 16,827 | Job Openings listed – Oct. 2012 | 17,220 |
| | | 202,588 | Job Openings listed for PY (Jul. 2011 – Jun. 2012) | 202,588 |
| | | 74,966 | Job Openings listed - Y-T-D (Jul. 2012 - Oct. 2012) | 58,139 |
| | | 1,245 | Claimants entering employment through ES ⁷ – Oct. 2012 | 1,010 |
| | | 4,293 | Claimants entering employment through ES ⁷ - Y-T-D (Jul. 2012 – Oct. 2012) | 3,081 |
| | | 6,246 | Jobseekers entering employment through ES – Oct. 2012 | 6,097 |
| | | 25,380 | Jobseekers entering employment through ES - Y-T-D (Jul. 2012 – Oct. 2012) | 19,568 |

¹ Data in this column represent prior month, prior quarter or prior year data; i.e., prior year equals 2011 data.

² Regular UI benefits unless otherwise noted.

³ Includes benefits paid according to the federal ETA 5159 Claims and Payment Activities Report.

⁴ Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) provides up to 53 weeks of 100% federally funded compensation.

⁵ Extended Benefits program (EB) provides 80% or up to a maximum of 20 weeks of extended unemployment insurance benefits.

⁶ Totals for *Jobseekers provided service* and *Jobseekers referred to jobs* represent the number of customers who, during the report month, received a reportable service or were referred to employment for the first time since the beginning of the Program Year (July 1, 2012).

⁷ Individuals who filed a claim for unemployment benefits through a local office.

Highlights

The Department of Commerce, Division of Employment Security (DES) processed a total of 434,608 Weeks claimed for Unemployment Insurance in October 2012, up 2.9 percent from September (422,511) and down 11.5 percent from October a year ago (491,129).

October's statewide Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) at 2.5 percent dropped from the 2.8 percent of September 2012 and the 3.2 percent of October a year ago.

There were 59,118 state UI Initial Claims (excluding Interstate Liable, UCX and UCFE) filed in October 2012, up 39.6 percent from the prior month's total of 42,362. Compared with October 2011 (58,410), Initial Claims' volume increased 1.2 percent.

During the second quarter 2012, North Carolina's average duration of Weeks claimed for Unemployment Insurance benefits decreased from 16.4 weeks to 16.3 weeks, equal to Texas. The national average decreased from 17.4 weeks to 17.3 weeks during this time period. During the same quarter, states with lower duration weeks were: North Dakota, 11.7 weeks; Georgia, 13.4 weeks; Iowa, 13.9 weeks; Idaho, Indiana and South Carolina, 14.0 weeks; Nebraska, 14.1 weeks; Utah, 14.2 weeks; Vermont, 14.4 weeks; South Dakota, 14.6 weeks; New Hampshire, 14.7 weeks; Alabama, 14.9 weeks; Wyoming, 15.1 weeks; Arkansas and West Virginia, 15.3 weeks; Tennessee, 15.6 weeks; Colorado, Kansas, Michigan and Minnesota, 15.7 weeks; Maine, Missouri, and Virginia, 15.8 weeks; and Rhode Island, 16.1 weeks.

During October 2012, 82 counties reported a decrease in the IUR and 18 reported an increase. When comparing current rates to October 2011, 88 counties reported a decrease in the IUR while 10 reported an increase and 2 remained unchanged. Counties with the lowest rates in October 2012 were: Orange, 0.97 percent; Watauga, 1.19 percent; Durham, 1.29 percent; Wake, 1.61 percent; and Swain, 1.63 percent. Counties with the highest rates in October 2012 were: Caswell, 6.94 percent; Perquimans, 6.69 percent; Graham, 6.63 percent; Hoke, 6.15 percent; and Stokes, 5.83 percent.

The Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund balance was at a deficit of \$2,524,026,023 on October 31, 2012. Since Jan. 1, 2012, the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund improved \$142,063,626. During October, DES collected \$46,835,059 in Unemployment Insurance taxes assessed to employers. The Federal Loan had a balance of \$2,528,413,113, and the State Reserve Fund had a balance of \$46,651,145.

As of September 30, 2012, there were 196,534 covered employers in the state compared to 196,962 at the end of the prior quarter, and 194,542 at the end of September a year ago.

Claimants in October 2012 were paid \$102,613,227 in unemployment benefits. The weekly average payment per claimant without earnings was \$300.81, a decrease of 0.4 percent from the prior month (\$302.11). This average increased 3.0 percent from October 2011 (\$292.11). Claimants receiving first payments in October totaled 22,694, a 25.6 percent increase from September (18,065) and a 1.2 percent decrease from the October 2011 level (22,967). Claimants exhausting benefit rights numbered 12,229, for an increase of 2.9 percent from September's volume (11,881) and fell 14.9 percent from the October 2011 volume (14,377).

There were 32,370 new and renewed jobseekers in October 2012, up 3.2 percent from the prior month's total of 31,369 and down 3.6 percent from the October 2011 level (33,582). Jobseekers provided services through local offices in October numbered 59,906, an 8.4 percent increase from September (55,266) and 2.7 percent from the October 2011 level (58,306). Jobseekers referred to jobs by local offices in October totaled 41,317, a 7.8 percent increase from the prior month (38,336) and a 4.4 percent increase from October 2011 level (39,583). Total services provided via local offices in October was 171,603, rose 16.3 percent from September (147,549) and 19.0 percent from October a year ago (144,212).

Job Openings listed with local offices in October 2012 totaled 16,827, a 2.3 percent decrease from the prior month (17,220) and a 22.3 percent increase from October 2011 (13,754).

In October 2012, there were 1,245 claimants who filed for unemployment benefits through a local office and subsequently entered employment — a 23.3 percent increase from the prior month (1,010) and a 66.4 percent increase from the October 2011 volume (748). In October 2012, there were 6,246 jobseekers that entered employment as a result of services obtained through a local office — 2.4 percent more than September (6,097) and 10.0 percent more than October a year ago (5,680).